## <u>Abstract</u>

A method, of controlling access to a volume at least a portion of which is on a storage-device such that communication between an input/output (I/O) initiator and the storage-device takes place via a stack of device objects (DOs) representing the volume, may include: providing the stack, the DOs in the stack being arranged according to a first I/O state for the volume; and selectively switching to a second I/O state for the volume without completely tearing down the stack.